REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated October 2, 2006. Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 7, and 16-20 have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicants regard as their invention. Claims 1 and 7 are independent.

Claims 16-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 16-20 have been amended to recite a computer-readable medium, in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under Section 101 is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3, 5-9, and 11-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious from U.S. Patent 6,314,452 (*Dekel et al.*) in view of the publication entitled "The Importance of Percent-Done Progress Indicators for Computer-Human Interfaces" (*Myers et al.*), and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0234141 (*Christopoulos et al.*); and Claims 4 and 10, as being obvious from *Dekel et al.* in view of the *Myers et al.* publication and *Christopoulos et al.*, and further in view of U.S. Patent 5,436,637 (*Gayraud et al.*).

Claim 1 is directed to a method for alerting during the progressive decoding of a digital image coded by bitplanes with a region of interest coded by a predetermined number of bitplanes to be decoded first, at least a bitplane to be decoded last corresponding to data not belonging to the region of interest. The method includes (1) detecting an end of decoding of the region of interest by checking whether the predetermined number of bitplanes has been received, and (2) activating an indication of the end of decoding of the region of interest by displaying an indicator in an indicator-display area at a predetermined position on a screen.

Among other notable features of Claim 1 are activating an indication of the end of decoding of a region of interest by displaying an indicator based on checking whether a predetermined number of bitplanes coding the region of interest has been received. (See, e.g., the present specification at page 9, lines 23-32.)[1/]

Dekel et al., as understood by Applicants, relates to transmission of still images over relatively low-speed communication channels. Fig. 2, cited in the Office Action, is an overall system workflow diagram, and Fig. 16, also cited in the Office Action, is a flow diagram discussing an outer loop of a client decoding algorithm.

Myers et al., as understood by Applicants, relates to a so-called "percent done progress indicator," which is defined in that document as "a graphical technique which allows the user to monitor the progress through the processing of a task."

Christopoulos et al., as understood by Applicants, relates to an embedded DCT-based still image coding algorithm.

Applicants have found nothing in *Dekel et al.*, *Myers et al.*, and *Christopoulos et al.*, whether considered either separately or in any permissible combination (if any) that would teach or suggest displaying an indicator of the end of decoding of a region of interest based on checking whether a predetermined number of bitplanes defining this region of interest have been received.

As noted in previous papers, *Dekel et al.* relates to a different use of regions of interest than in the method of Claim 1; in *Dekel et al.*, a region of interest defines the data to be coded and transmitted. *Dekel et al.* cannot teach or suggest, therefore, detecting an end of decoding of a region of interest by checking whether a predetermined number of

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1/It is of course to be understood that the references to various portions of the present application are by way of illustration and example only, and that the claims are not limited by the details shown in the portions referred to.

bitplanes has been received, in which the predetermined number defines the region of interest as opposed to data not belonging to the region of interest.

Applicants submit that nothing in *Myers et al.* or *Christopoulos et al.* would remedy the deficiencies of *Dekel et al.* *Christopoulos* also fails to teach or suggest detecting the end of decoding of a region of interest by checking whether a predetermined number of bitplanes corresponding to the region of interest has been received.

Applicants have found nothing in *Dekel et al.*, *Myers et al.*, and *Christopoulos et al.*, whether considered either separately or in any permissible combination (if any) that would teach or suggest activating an indication of the end of decoding of a region of interest by displaying an indicator based on checking whether a predetermined number of bitplanes coding the region of interest has been received, as recited in Claim 1.

Accordingly, Claim 1 is seen to be clearly allowable over *Dekel et al.*, *Myers et al.*, and *Christopoulos et al.*, whether considered either separately or in any permissible combination (if any).

Independent Claim 7 is a device claim corresponding to method Claim 1, and is believed to be patentable over *Dekel et al.*, *Myers et al.*, and *Christopoulos* for at least the same reasons as discussed above in connection with Claim 1.

A review of the other art of record has failed to reveal anything which, in Applicants' opinion, would remedy the deficiencies of the art discussed above, as references against the independent claims herein. Those claims are therefore believed patentable over the art of record.

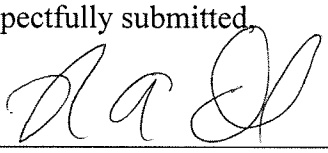
The other claims in this application are each dependent from Claim 1 or 7 discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each

dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Raymond A. DiPerna
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 44,063

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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